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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/812,237

03/29/2004

Chul-Ho Bae

678-1304

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01/13/2009

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EXAMINER

CUTLER, ALBERT H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

01/13/2009

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/812,237

Applicant(s)

BAE, CHUL-HO

Examiner

ALBERT H. CUTLER

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 03 November 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SE/US)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to communication filed on November 3, 2008. Claims 1-9 are pending in the application and have been examined by the Examiner.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on October 1, 2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed October 1, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.
4. Applicant argues that the combination of Britz and Shiin does not teach that a first rotating axis extends in a direction perpendicular to a base of the cylinder as recited in claim 1.
5. The Examiner respectfully disagrees. Shiin teaches that the first lens housing (3) is rotated about a first rotating axis extending in a longitudinal direction of the first lens housing (See figures 1 and 4, paragraphs 0008-0013. The lens housing (3) is rotated via a control lever (6). Shiin teaches of joint pins (4, drawing 3) extending from the first lens housing (3), which joint pins (4) enable the rotation of the lens housing via the control lever (6, see paragraphs 0010-0011, drawing 4).). As shown in drawing 3, the

cylinder (3) of Shiin has a top portion and bottom portion which connect at the joint pins (4). The Examiner interprets the bottom portion of the cylinder to be the base of the cylinder. The first rotating axis (i.e. the axis given by the direction of the joint pins) extends in a direction perpendicular to an outer wall of the base of the cylinder (i.e. perpendicular to the base of the cylinder).

6. Therefore the rejection is maintained by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

7. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

8. Claims 1-6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britz (US 5,414,444) in view of Shiin (Japanese Patent Application Publication 11-264960).

Consider claim 1, Britz teaches:

A camera lens assembly (115) mounted in a portable wireless terminal (see figures 1 and 2), comprising:

a first lens housing, shaped as a cylinder (See figure 7. The cylindrical outer periphery constitutes a first lens housing.) attached to the portable wireless terminal (See figures 1 and 2, column 4, lines 16-27. The first lens housing is mounted on a communicator (i.e. a portable wireless terminal).); and

a second lens housing (700, see figure 7) rotatably attached to the first lens housing so that the second lens housing (700) can be rotated about a second rotating axis extending perpendicularly to a first rotating axis (The second lens housing has two axes of rotation. See figure 7, column 4, lines 16-27.), the second lens (700) housing having a camera lens mounted therein (A camera lens is mounted on the upper portion of the second lens housing (700) in figure 7. See 303, figure 5, column 3, lines 24-31.).

However, Britz does not explicitly teach that the first lens housing is rotatably attached to the portable wireless terminal so that the first lens housing can be rotated about a first rotating axis extending in a direction perpendicular to a base of the cylinder.

Shiin is similar to Britz in that Shiin teaches of a camera lens assembly (figure 3) mounted in a portable wireless terminal (see figures 1 and 4), comprising a first lens housing (3) attached to the portable wireless terminal (See figures 1 and 4, paragraphs 0008-0013. The lens housing (3) is a cylindrical housing similar to that taught by Britz, see figure 3.).

9. However, in addition to the teachings of Britz, Shiin teaches that the first lens housing (3) is rotatably attached to the portable wireless terminal so that the first lens housing (3) can be rotated about a first rotating axis extending in a direction perpendicular to a base of the cylinder. (See figures 1 and 4, paragraphs 0008-0013. The lens housing (3) can be rotated via a control lever (6). Shiin teaches of joint pins (4, drawing 3) extending from the first lens housing (3), which joint pins (4) enable the rotation of the lens housing via the control lever (6, see paragraphs 0010-0011, drawing 4). Therefore, the Examiner interprets the axis of the joint pins (4, see drawing 3) to be

the axis extending in a longitudinal direction of the first lens housing. This is the rotating axis of the first lens housing, as shown in drawing 4. As shown in drawing 3, the cylinder (3) of Shiin has a top portion and bottom portion which connect at the joint pins (4). The Examiner interprets the bottom portion of the cylinder to be the base of the cylinder. The first rotating axis (i.e. the axis given by the direction of the joint pins) extends in a direction perpendicular to an outer wall of the base of the cylinder (i.e. perpendicular to the base of the cylinder).).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to attach the first lens housing taught by Britz rotatably to the portable wireless terminal as taught by Shiin for the benefit of being able to protect the display section from external damage while operating the camera and providing the user with more versatile device that increase the convenience of photography (Shiin, paragraph 0014).

Consider claim 2, and as applied to claim 1 above, Britz further teaches:

The first lens housing is a cylinder with an open end for allowing the second lens (700) housing to be attached to the first lens housing (see figure 7, claim 1 rationale).

Britz does not explicitly teach that the first lens housing has a first semicircular opening, formed on an outer circumference thereof adjacent to the open end, and a pair of supporting pieces spaced diametrically from one another and angularly from the first semicircular opening and extending from the open end along the first rotating axis.

Shiin teaches that the first lens housing (see figure 3) has a first semicircular opening, formed on an outer circumference thereof adjacent to the open end, and a pair of supporting pieces spaced diametrically from one another and angularly from the first semicircular opening and extending from the open end along the first rotating axis(See figure 3. The first lens housing of Shiin comprises a top portion and a bottom portion, each of which has a semicircular opening in which a pair of supporting pieces (4) are arranged and angularly displaced from the opening. These supporting pieces (4) extend along the first rotating axis as shown in figure 1.).

Consider claim 3, and as applied to claim 2 above, Britz further teaches:

the second lens housing (700) is sphere-shaped and attached to the open end of the first lens housing (see figure 7), wherein the second lens housing (700) has a pair of supporting pins (axial supports, 703, 704) protruding outwardly from an outer circumference of the second lens housing (700) in opposite directions perpendicular to the first rotating axis (Because the second housing actually has two pairs of supporting pins (see figure 7), at least one of which will be perpendicular to the first rotating axis. See also figures 9 and 10.), so that the supporting pins each are rotatably coupled with a respective one of the supporting pieces of the first lens housing(When the first lens housing taught by Shiin is combined with the second lens housing taught by Britz, the supporting pins of the first lens housing would be rotatably coupled with the supporting pieces of second lens housing.), the second lens housing (700) further having a second

opening formed on the outer circumference thereof and spaced from the pair of supporting pins for exposing the camera lens (see figure 7).

Consider claim 4, and as applied to claim 3 above, Britz further teaches that the second opening is positioned above the first opening as the lens housing is rotated (see figure 7).

Consider claim 5, and as applied to claim 3 above, Britz further teaches that the second lens housing (700) further has a stopper protrusion formed on the outer circumference thereof (the protruding portion with the lens constitutes a stopper portion, as it stops the rotation of the second lens housing, figure 4.), and wherein the stopper protrusion is engaged with the open end of the first lens housing to restrict a rotation range of the second lens housing relative to the first lens housing (see figure 4).

Consider claim 6, and as applied to claim 5 above, Britz further teaches that the rotation range of the second lens housing is limited to about an angle of 90 degrees (see figures 4 and 7).

Consider claim 8, and as applied to claim 1 above, Britz further teaches a camera shaft fixed to the first lens housing and spaced from the second lens housing along the first rotating axis, the camera shaft extending along the first rotating axis so that the camera lens is attached to the terminal (See figures 3 and 5. Britz teaches of a

camera shaft fixed to the lens housing and extending from the left portion thereof with reference to figures 3 and 5. Said shaft contains cables for joining the imaging chip to the video circuitry in the housing of the circuit board. See column 3, lines 24-44.). Shiin teaches that the first lens housing is rotatably attached to the terminal (see claim 1 rationale).

10. Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britz in view of Shiin as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Park (US 2001/0036845).

Consider claim 7, and as applied to claim 1 above, Britz further teaches that the second lens housing (700) further has a though-hole formed at an outer circumference thereof, the though-hole being placed in the first lens housing, and wherein the camera lens has cables extended from one end thereof, the cables passing through the though-hole and the first lens housing and then being drawn out from the other end of the first lens housing (See figures 3 and 5. Britz teaches of a camera shaft fixed to the lens housing and extending from the left portion thereof with reference to figures 3 and 5. Said shaft contains cables for joining the imaging chip to the video circuitry in the housing of the circuit board. See column 3, lines 24-44.).

However, the combination of Britz and Shiin does not explicitly teach that said cables comprise a flexible printed circuit.

Park similarly teaches of a terminal (figures 1 and 2) with a lens housing (40).

However, in addition to the combined teachings of Britz and Shiin, Park teaches that a flexible printed circuit (410) is used to connect the imaging chip to the video circuitry in the housing of the circuit board (See figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0029-0031).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a flexible printed circuit as taught by Park in place of the cables taught by the combination of Britz and Shiin for the benefit of reducing the size and weight of the main body and creating a less fragile device (Park, paragraphs 0005-0008.).

11. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Britz in view of Shiin as applied to claim 8 above, and further in view of Masami et al. (Japanese Patent Application Publication 2002-359678).

Consider claim 9, and as applied to claim 8 above, Britz teaches of a shaft. However the combination of Britz and Shiin does not explicitly teach of a grooved coupling part or an E-ring.

Masami et al. is similar in that a lens housing is attached to a phone terminal (see figures 1, 3, 4, and 5). Masami et al. is further similar in that said lens housing is rotatably attached to the terminal body so as to rotate about an axis of rotation extending from the terminal body (paragraph 0031).

In addition to the teachings of the combination of Britz and Shiin, Masami teaches the camera shaft has a grooved coupling part formed on an end thereof, the grooved coupling part being configured to fittingly receive an E-ring (See figures 3 and 4. The camera shaft (42) has a groove on the interior thereof, where an e-ring (73) is fitted, paragraphs 0031-0047).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to fit an E-ring into a grooved portion as taught by Masami et al. of the shaft taught by the combination of Britz and Shiin for the benefit of providing friction, allowing the second lens housing to turn with the rotation of the camera, and thus avoiding having the camera lens and window pointed toward the outside of the terminal device when the photographing operation is not being performed, thereby protecting the camera from the exterior (Masami et al., paragraphs 0008, 0009 and 0013-0016).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALBERT H. CUTLER whose telephone number is (571)270-1460. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Thu (9:00-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sinh Tran can be reached on (571) 272-7564. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AC

/Sinh N Tran/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2622